

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State/Territory: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATIONS

1. An advance group determination that nursing facility services are needed may be made by the nursing facility or other evaluator following Level I review if an applicant/resident is not a danger to self or others and the existing data on the individual appears to be current, accurate and sufficient to allow the evaluator to readily determine that the individual fits into one of the following categories:
 - a. The individual is certified by a referring or attending physician to be in a coma or functioning at the brain stem level. The condition must require intense 24 hour nursing facility services and supervision and be so extreme that the individual cannot focus upon, participate in or benefit from specialized services.
 - b. Respite care not to exceed a maximum stay of 14 days. It must be certified by a referring or attending physician that the individual requires 24 hour nursing facility services and supervision.
2. An advance group determination that specialized services are not needed may be made by the nursing facility or other evaluator following Level I review if an applicant/resident is not a danger to self or others and the existing data on the individual appears to be current, accurate and sufficient to allow the evaluator to readily determine that the individual fits in the following category:

Respite care not to exceed a maximum stay of 14 days. It must be certified by a referring or attending physician that the individual requires 24 hour nursing facility services and supervision.
3. An advance group determination that specialized services are not needed may be made at the Level II review stage if an applicant/resident is not a danger to self or others and the existing data on the individual appears to be current, accurate and sufficient to allow the evaluator readily to determine that the individual has dementia, which exists in combination with mental retardation or an other related condition.

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DEFINITION OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES

SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS (MI)

Specialized services for individuals with MI are defined as inpatient psychiatric hospitalization or those appropriate community based mental health services needed by the individual, including those types of service currently provided by the county community mental health system. They are: case management (e.g., intensive care management, resource coordination, administrative case management), supervised living arrangements (e.g., community residential rehabilitation, long term structured residence, supported housing, personal care homes), psychiatric outpatient clinic services, partial hospitalization services, crisis and emergency services, psychosocial rehabilitation and any other mental health services.

Specialized services for individuals with a serious mental illness are authorized by the Office of Mental Health through their regional offices. The services shall be based on the individual's needs.

SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION (MR)

Specialized services for individuals with MR are defined as services specified by the State which combined with services provided by the nursing facility or other service providers include aggressive, consistent implementation of a program of specialized and generic training, treatment, health services, and related services that are directed toward:

1. The acquisition of the behaviors necessary for the individual to function with as much self determination and independence as possible, and
2. The prevention or deceleration of regression or loss of current optimal functional status.

Specialized services are authorized by the Office of Mental Retardation through the responsible county MH/MR program for individuals with mental retardation who are residents of a nursing facility when the individual's needs are such that continuous supervision, treatment and training by qualified mental retardation personnel are necessary.

SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH OTHER RELATED CONDITIONS (ORC)

Specialized services for individuals with ORC are defined as services specified by the State which combined with nursing facility and special rehabilitative services provided by the nursing facility result in:

1. The acquisition of the behaviors necessary for the individual to function with as much self determination and independence as possible, and
2. The prevention or deceleration of regression or loss of current optimal functional status.

Specialized services are authorized for individuals with other related conditions by the Office of Social Programs or it's agent. For individuals with ORC, specialized services primarily include: Service Coordination/Advocacy Services; Peer Counseling/Support Groups; Training; Community Integration Activities; Equipment/Assessments/Related Education and Transportation.